



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Stecyk et al. Confirmation No. 7765
Appl. No. : 09/295,935
Filing Date : April 21, 1999
Title : V-CHIP HOURS

Group Art Unit : 2617
Examiner : Annan Q. Shang

Docket No. : 705397.15

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22513-1450

Sir:

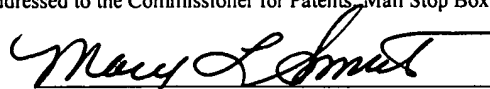
We, POLLY STECYK, EDWIN JOU, and SHAWN GRAHAM, declare as follows:

1. We are the only named joint inventors of the above-identified patent application.
2. Before November 30, 1998, we conceived, in the United States, the invention disclosed and claimed in the above-identified patent application, and

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
(37 C.F.R. §1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22513-1450.

September 29, 2005
Date of Deposit
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705397-15 K2R


Mary L. Smith



705397.15
Patent

exercised reasonable diligence from conception until the above-identified patent application was filed on April 21, 1999.

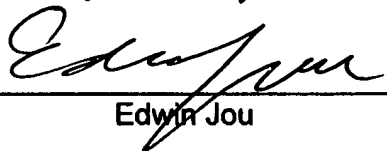
3. Exhibit 1 is a true copy of disclosure materials, from which the dates have been redacted, which record work performed before November 30, 1998 in the United States. The disclosure materials record embodiments of electronic device locks of the subject invention.

4. We further declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereunder.

Dated: 9/2/05


Polly Stecyk

Dated: 8/24/05


Edwin Jou

Dated: 9/8/05



Shawn Graham



EXHIBIT A



Date Submitted _____

Date Assigned _____

Inventor's Signature _____

File Number 45Number of additional attached sheets: 4IP Representative [Signature]

Instructions: You may type in the spaces provided or print out the form and fill in by hand. If additional space is needed for any item please put it on an additional sheet of paper, number the item, put a date and your name on each sheet, and attach it. Then note the number of attached sheets above.

1. Names of Inventor(s): Polly Stecyk , EDWIN JON, SHAWN GRAMER
2. Title of the Invention: V-Chip Hours
3. When and where did you conceive of this invention ?:
I conceived of the idea while developing the VZ7 user interface for V-Chip during August 1998.
4. Why is this invention useful? (Does it make something better? Does it make something cheaper? Does it add new features? Does it improve performance or solve a problem? Estimated commercial value?

V-Chip takes time to evaluate each program for the rating. The V-Chip hours automatically stops V-Chip review of programming at a designated hour. V-Chip review for the specified TV rating and selections or Movie rating is resumed at a specified hour. Enabling V-Chip hours permits adult viewing (no V-Chip review) automatically at the requested hour. As a result, adult viewing can take place without the necessity of turning OFF V-Chip and the subsequent risk that the user will forget to turn V-Chip back ON.

5. Brief summary of the invention (technical abstract) include key technical achievements:

V-Chip hours is a software features that adds ease of use for adult users. Adults who wish to have V-Chip review programming while children are present, but prefer that V-Chip be disabled during adult viewing can set the V-CHIP START TIME and V-CHIP STOP TIME. Then V-Chip discontinues review of programming as a designated hour and automatically resumes.

6. Detailed Description of the Invention:

Guidelines: If it is a circuit, give the components, method of operation, and results. If it is a system, give the components, their function, and overall system results. If it is software, give the inputs, sequence of operations, and the results. If it is an article, such as a unique bracket, give the details of its structure and its use. If it is a process give the conditions necessary for the process, the steps of the process, and the results of the process.

Once a TV Rating is set, the V-Chip hours options become available. If TV Rating is OFF, V-Chip hours are grayed out and can not be selected. The V-CHIP START TIME is the time at which the V-Chip reviews programming per the set TV and Movie Ratings. At the set V-CHIP STOP TIME the V-Chip no longer reviews programming allowing adult viewing. Should the V-CHIP START TIME and V-CHIP STOP TIME be the same, V-Chip is enabled 24 hours. When the time is not set (e.g. a power loss), then V-Chip ignores the V-CHIP START TIME and V-CHIP STOP TIME. V-Chip is enabled until the time is reset.

7. Identify all relevant prior art. This includes anything you or coworkers have done, or any similar or related work by competitors, or anything that you know of, or have read about. Briefly describe the relationship of that art to your invention. Please provide copies of any material which is related and attach it to this form.

The basic requirements for V-Chip are defined in EIA-744-A and CEB-1-1 drafts. Internal meetings were held to understand the intent of the drafts. V-Chip hours was created in response to the limited ease of use intrinsic to it's design.

8. Why do you believe your invention is novel? Include such observations as "I have never seen it used by us or a competitor", "It solves a known problem", "previous technology was not able to accomplish this except at very high cost", "a component of the invention was not previously available" etc.

Government requirements for V-Chip implementation is imposed for 1999 products. No prior products have supported V-Chip.

9. What records do you have of the conception date. This can be a lab notebook, signed and dated paper, e-mail describing the invention, sketch, drawing, filling out of this form, etc.

VZ7 User Interface Requirements Version, version 1.1 dated

10. What was the earliest disclosure of the invention to others. Please state where, when, and to whom your idea was disclosed, and what records you have of this disclosure.

A proposal of V-Chip design was e-mailed to Product Development Group which included a description of V-Chip hours

11. this invention has been prototyped (or produced) please state when this was done, and the names of anyone who witnessed the test.

V-Chip hours has been implemented in the VZ7 television set. Software engineers have tested the design after implementation and Quality Assurance engineers will be testing prior to production.

12. State the date of the actual or expected first public use, disclosure, sale, or offer for sale of the invention.

The VZ7 television sets will be demonstrated to dealers the week of | First distribution for public sale scheduled for

13. Is this invention related to any other invention or disclosure that you know of? If so which one(s).

No.

14. Additional Comments:

N/A